

# Foundation Design and Construction

2009 Construction Training

Western Federal Lands Highway Division

Brian Collins, P.E.  
Geotechnical Engineer

# Session Outline

- Foundation Selection
  - Surface and subsurface conditions
  - Pros and cons
- Design
- Construction
- Case History

# Foundation Selection

# Site Surface and Subsurface Conditions

- Topography
- Vegetation
- Utilities
- Rivers
- Railroad tracks
- Roads/highways
- Landslides, debris flows, slumps, creeps, etc.
- Subsurface soil types
- Depth to bedrock or hard stratum
- Location of water table
- Wetlands
- Historical sites

# Subsurface Conditions

- Soil profile
- Water table
- Depth to bedrock/hard stratum
- Compressible soils – drag loads
- Site seismicity
- Nearby faults

# Spread Footings

(within 10 feet of existing grade)

- Pros:
  - Usually most cost effective for shallow depths
  - Easy to construct
  - No specialty contractor required
  - Subgrade can be easily inspected before pouring concrete
- Cons:
  - Require large excavation – size increases with depth
  - Constructability below water table and in water ways
  - Susceptible to scour

# Driven Piles

(when spread footings aren't feasible)

- Pros
  - Most contractors can perform the work
  - Transmit loads deep
  - Inexpensive to dynamic test (PDA and CAPWAP)
  - Closed-end pipe & monotube piles can be inspected for damage after driving
- Cons
  - Potential to buckle during deep scour event
  - May not be feasible to drive below deep scour elevations
  - Difficult to install in some conditions – may be damaged in cobbles and boulders
  - Design is difficult when there is no bedrock or hard stratum - floating piles – potential for costly change orders
  - H-piles cannot be inspected after driving

Hmmm...





D'oh!



# Drilled Shafts

(when spread footings aren't feasible)

- Pros
  - Transmit loads deep
  - High axial and lateral capacities
  - Minimal footprint – can be constructed in river without cofferdam
- Cons
  - Relatively expensive
  - Requires specialty contractor
  - Costly to verify loads
  - Can be difficult to install in bouldery deposits

# Piles v. Shafts

(when spread footings aren't feasible)

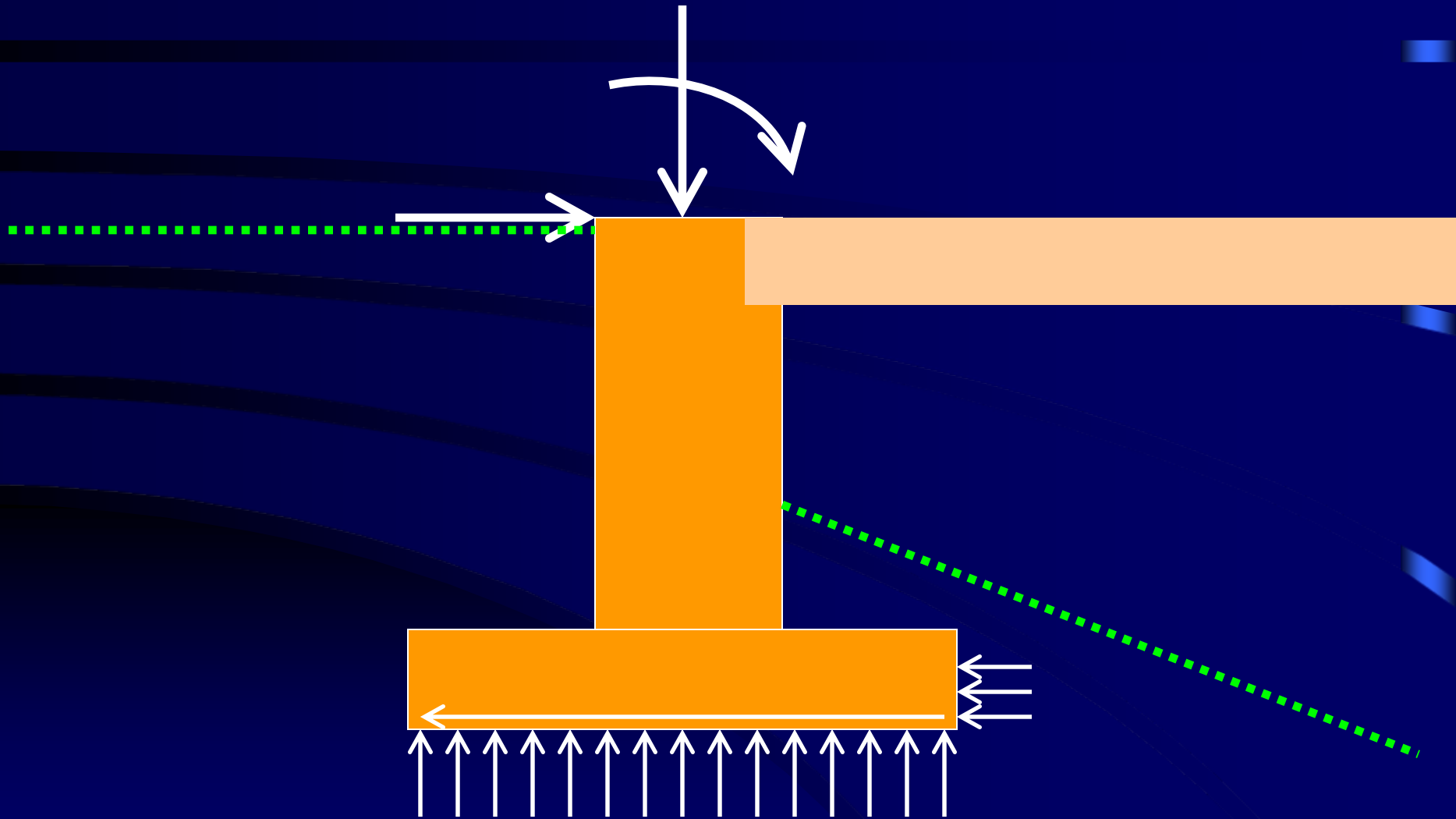
- Piles
  - Soft stratum overlying bedrock
  - Scour is not significant
  - Lateral loads are relatively small
- Drilled shafts
  - Axial and lateral loads are significant
  - Deep scour

Design

# Design – Sizing Foundations

- Axial Capacity
- Lateral Capacity
- Settlement

# Spread Footings



# Spread Footings

$$q_u = cN_c F_{cs} F_{cd} F_{ci} + qN_q F_{qs} F_{qd} F_{qi} + 1/2\gamma B N_\gamma F_{\gamma s} F_{\gamma d} F_{\gamma i}$$

$c$  = cohesion

$q$  = effective stress at bottom of footing elevation

$\gamma$  = unit weight of soil

$B$  = width of footing

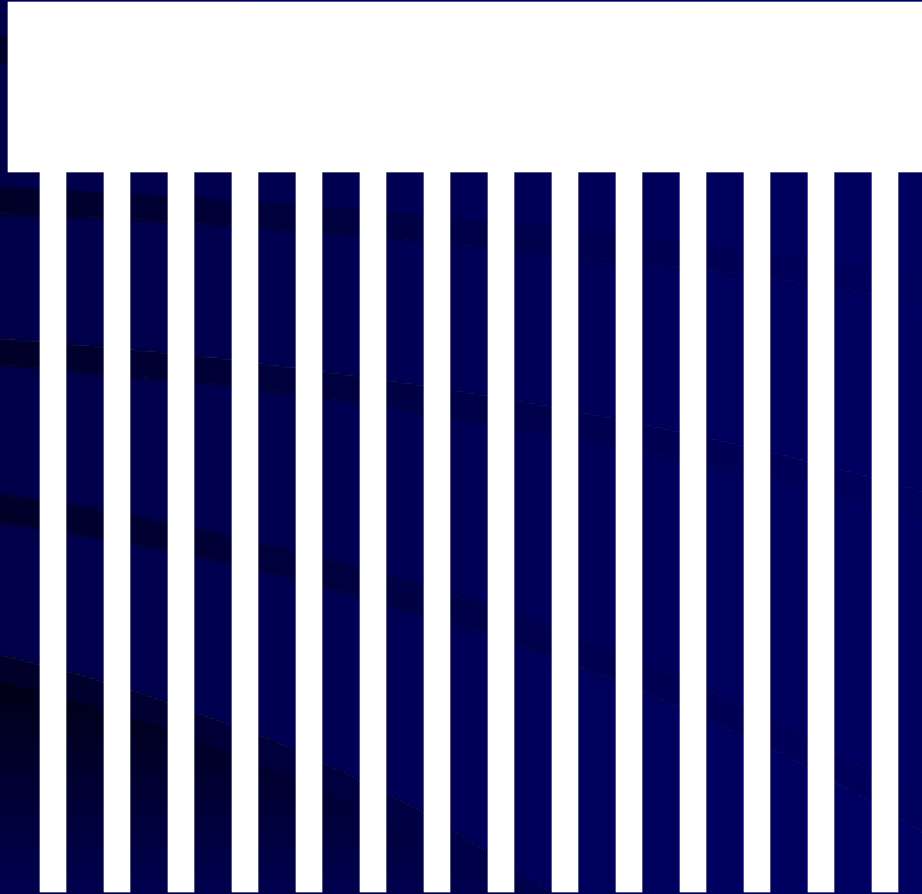
$F_{cs}, F_{qs}, F_{\gamma s}$  = shape factors

$F_{cd}, F_{qd}, F_{\gamma d}$  = depth factors

$F_{ci}, F_{qi}, F_{\gamma i}$  = load inclination factors

$N_c, N_q, N_\gamma$  = bearing capacity factors

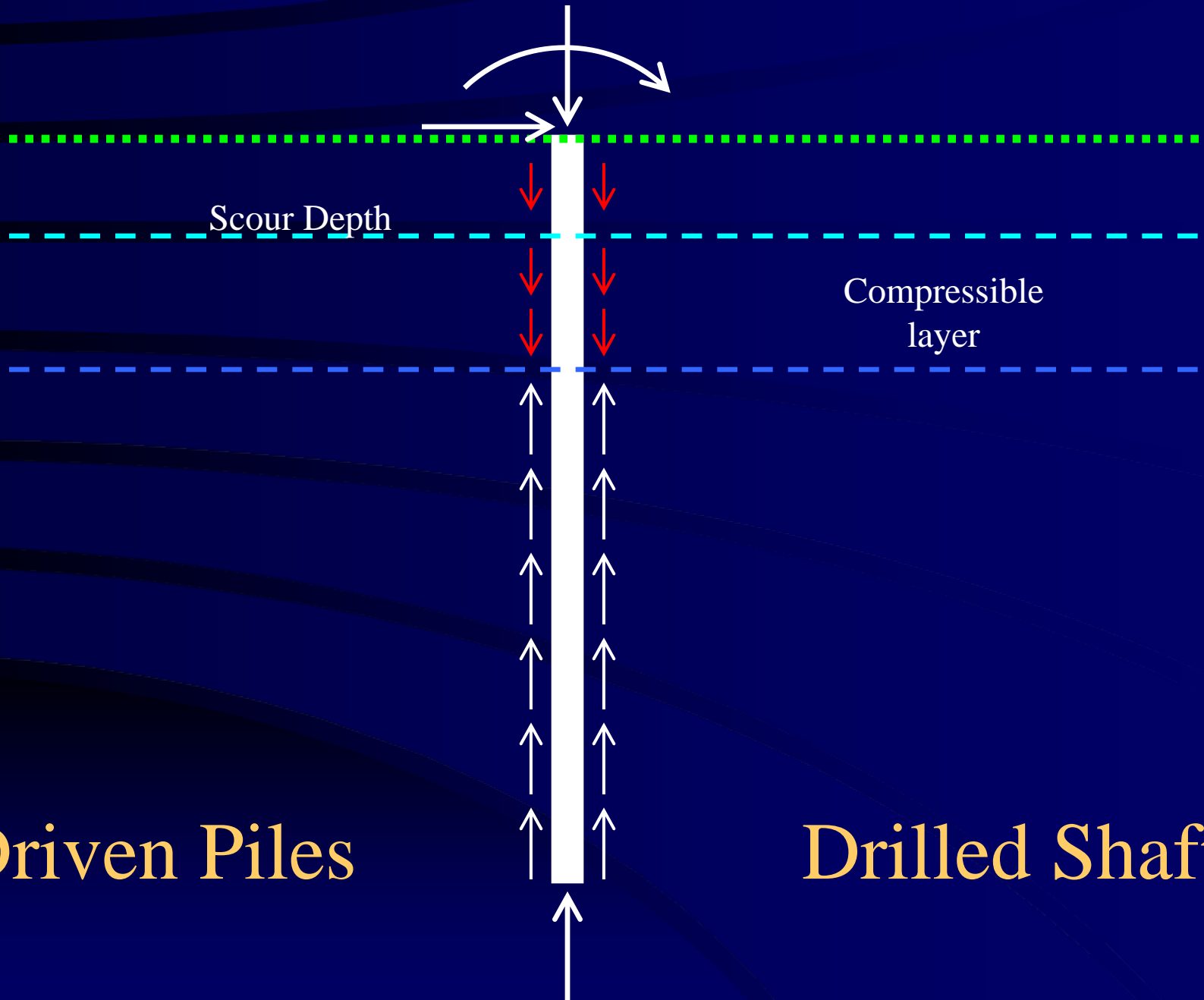
# Driven Piles





Driven Piles

Drilled Shafts



# Driven Piles and Drilled Shafts

$$Q_u = (\pi DL)q_s + (\pi D^2/4)q_p$$

D = diameter

L = length

$q_s$  = skin resistance

$q_p$  = point resistance

# Construction

# Spread Footings

- Keep water out of excavation at all times
- Have a Geotech look at the subgrade conditions before pouring concrete

# Driven Piles



10. 4. 2004



# ICE I -80



## I-80V2

<b>Ram Weight</b>	17700	lbs
<b>Maximum Geometric Stroke</b>	13.5	ft
<b>Energy @ Max Stroke</b>	238950	ft-lbs
<b>Rated Continuous Stroke</b>	12	ft
<b>Energy @ Rated Stroke</b>	212400	ft-lbs
<b>Blow Rate</b>	33-53	bpm
<b>Weight w/ Box-lead Guides</b>	41920	lbs
<b>Typical Helmet Weight</b>	5200	lbs
<b>Typical Operating Weight</b>	47120	lbs

# Driven Piles

- Keep driving logs for all piles
- Understand the basis for the design – required minimum tip elevation and required ultimate capacity
- Never use ENR formula

Drive to specified tip elevation,  
minimum capacity, or both?



**Sometimes axial capacity is not relevant...**



# Pile Specifications – Equipment Submittal

- Equipment Submittal – includes wave equation analysis - forward to Geotech for review
- Wave equation analysis must show that the proposed hammer system can drive the piles to the required ultimate capacity at between 3 and 10 blows/inch

# Pile Specifications – Driven Pile Capacity

- Test piles
- Wave equation – GRL WEAP
- Dynamic formula

$$R_u = 1.6\sqrt{eE} \log_{10}(10N) - 100$$

- Load Tests
  - PDA – Pile Dynamic Analyzer & CAPWAP – Case Pile Wave Analysis Program
  - Static Load Test



# Drilled Shafts



# Drilled Shafts

- Keep a log of the excavation – Geotech
- Clean out shaft after completion
- Installation methods
  - Dry Method (above water table and cohesive soils)
  - Wet Method (below water table and cohesionless soils)
    - Slurry
    - Casing

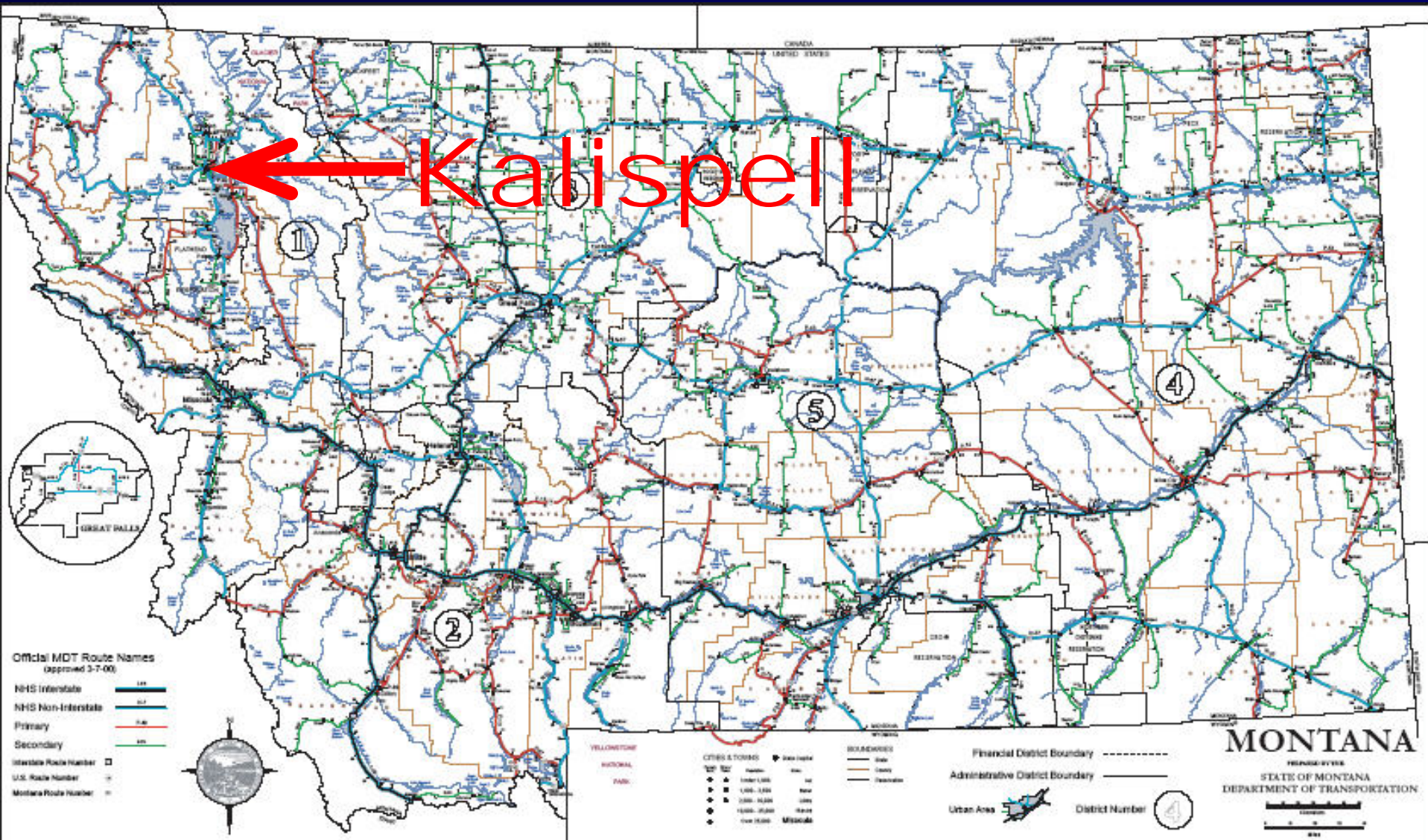
# Drilled Shaft Specifications

- Installation Plan Submittal - forward to Geotech for review
- Installation method – wet or dry
- Inspect shaft – test hole, SPT, or visual
- Concrete pour
  - Maintain 5 ft head of concrete above water when using casing
  - Free fall pour only allowed in dry holes
  - Use tremie or pump in wet holes – keep end of tremie/hose below level of concrete
- Perform CSL (cross-hole sonic log) testing

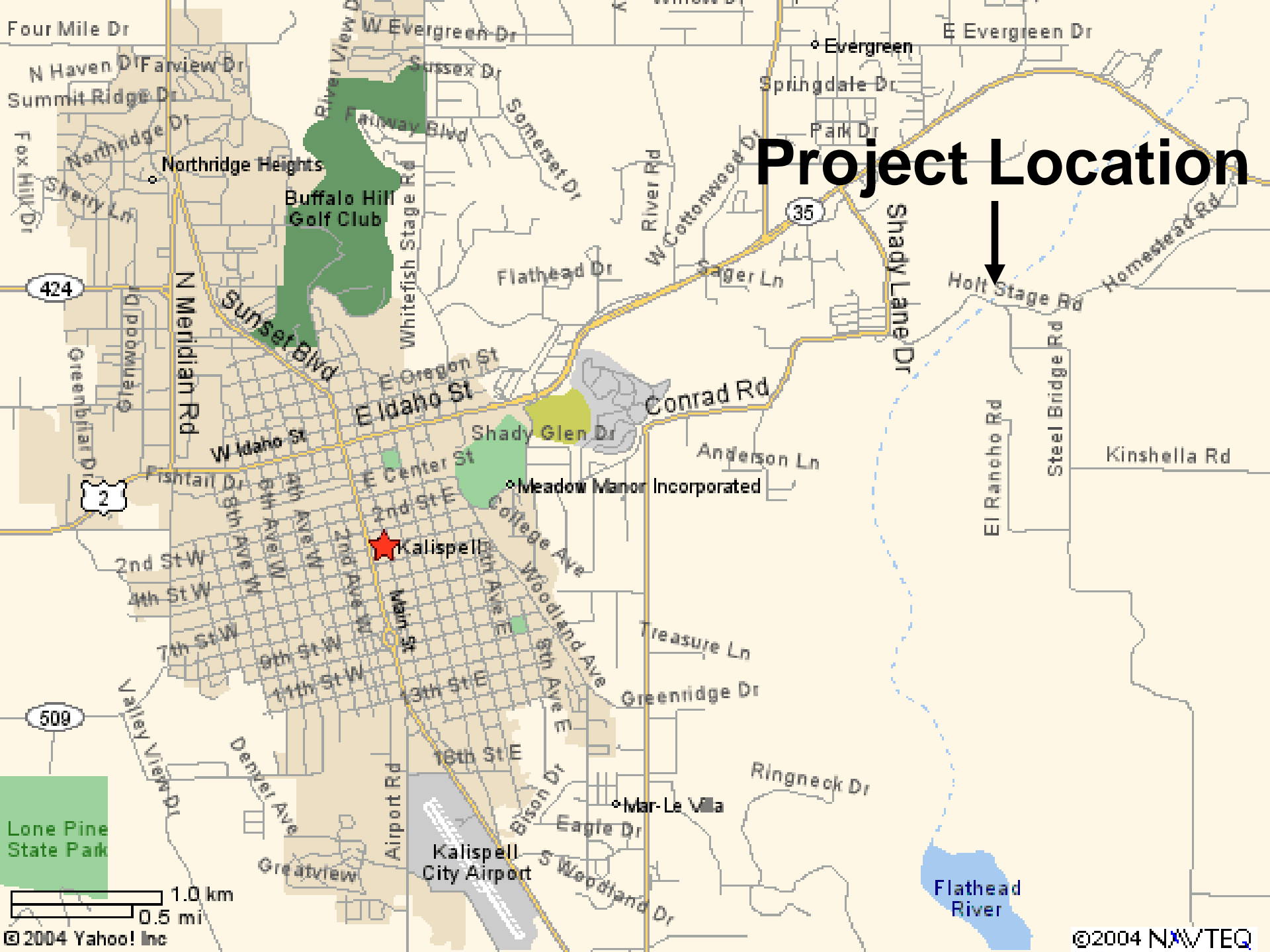
# Case History



# Flathead River







# Project Location



Kalispell

Lone Pine State Park

1.0 km  
0.5 mi

© 2004 Yahoo! Inc

© 2004 N/A/TEQ



4. 9. 2003

# The Old Bridge Had Some Issues





# Existing Bridge

- Constructed in 1894
- Total length = 184 m (600 ft)
- Five timber approach spans
- Three steel through-truss main spans
  - 2 @ 43 m (140 ft)
  - 1 @ 77 m (250 ft)
- Expansion bearings no longer function
- Severely deteriorated timber deck and abutments
- Closed for safety reasons in June 2005





EXISTING ALIGNMENT

Enchanted  
Wetland

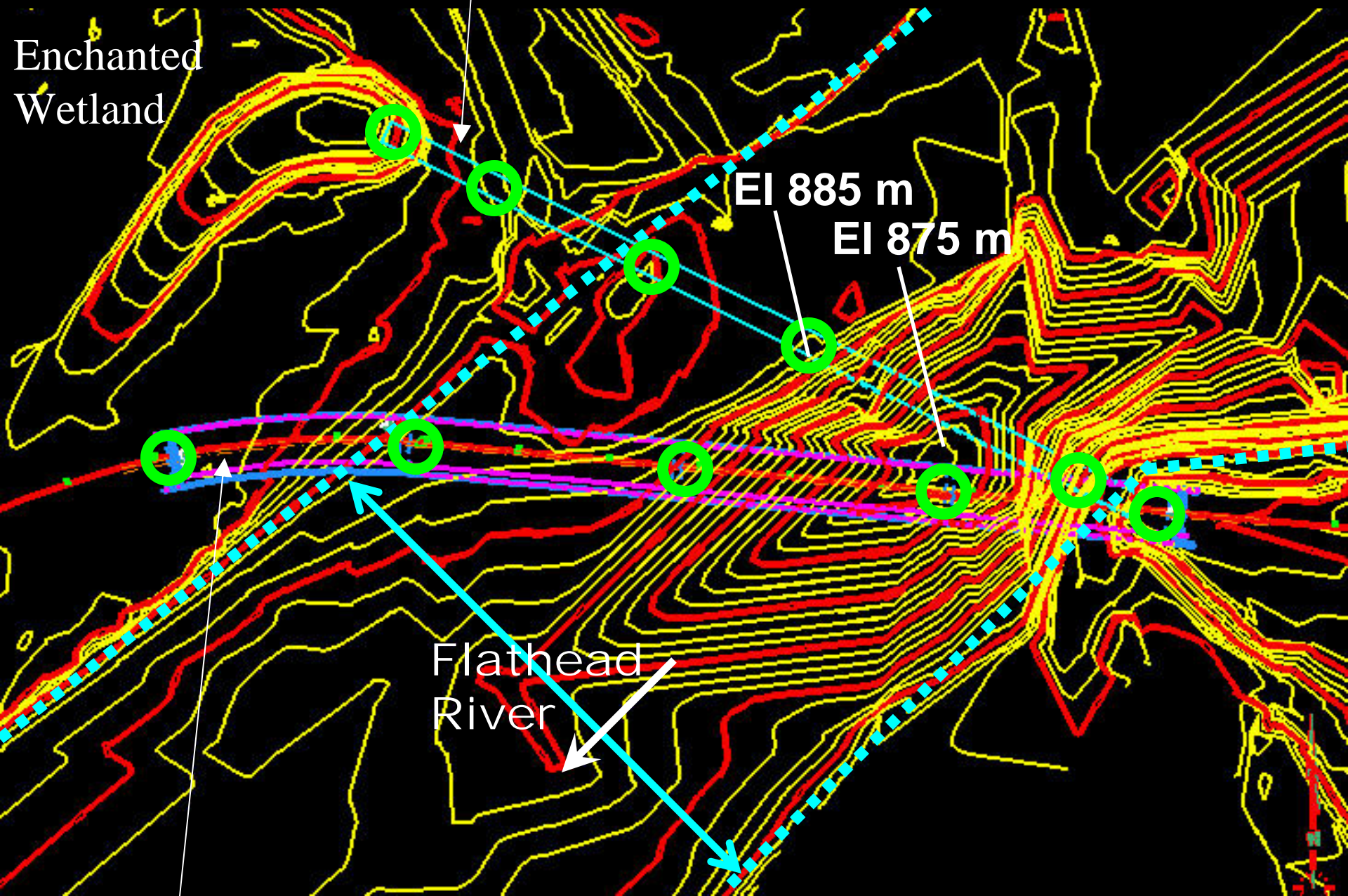
EI 885 m

EI 875 m

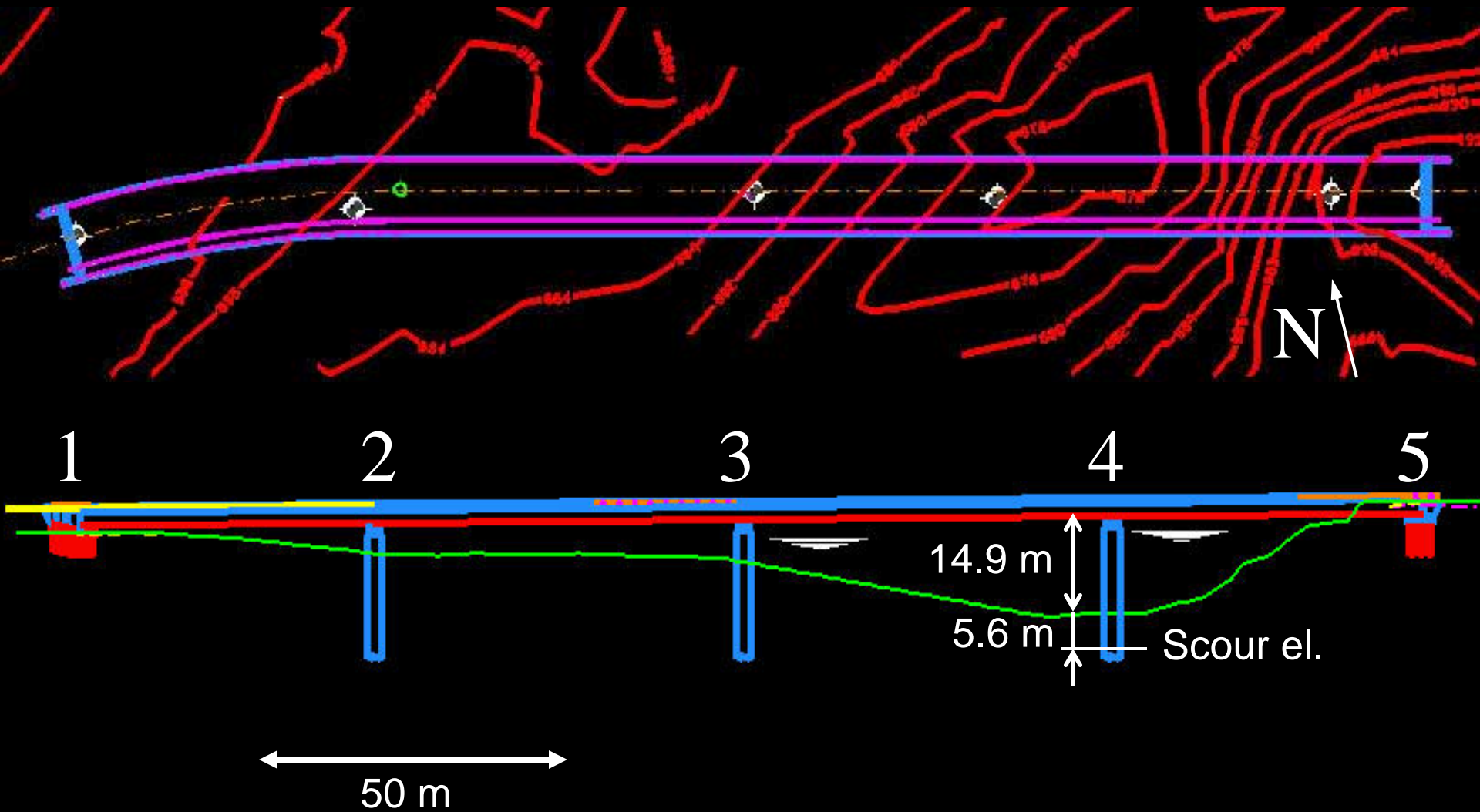
Flathead  
River

NEW ALIGNMENT

Topo @ 0.5 m scale



# Plan & Profile

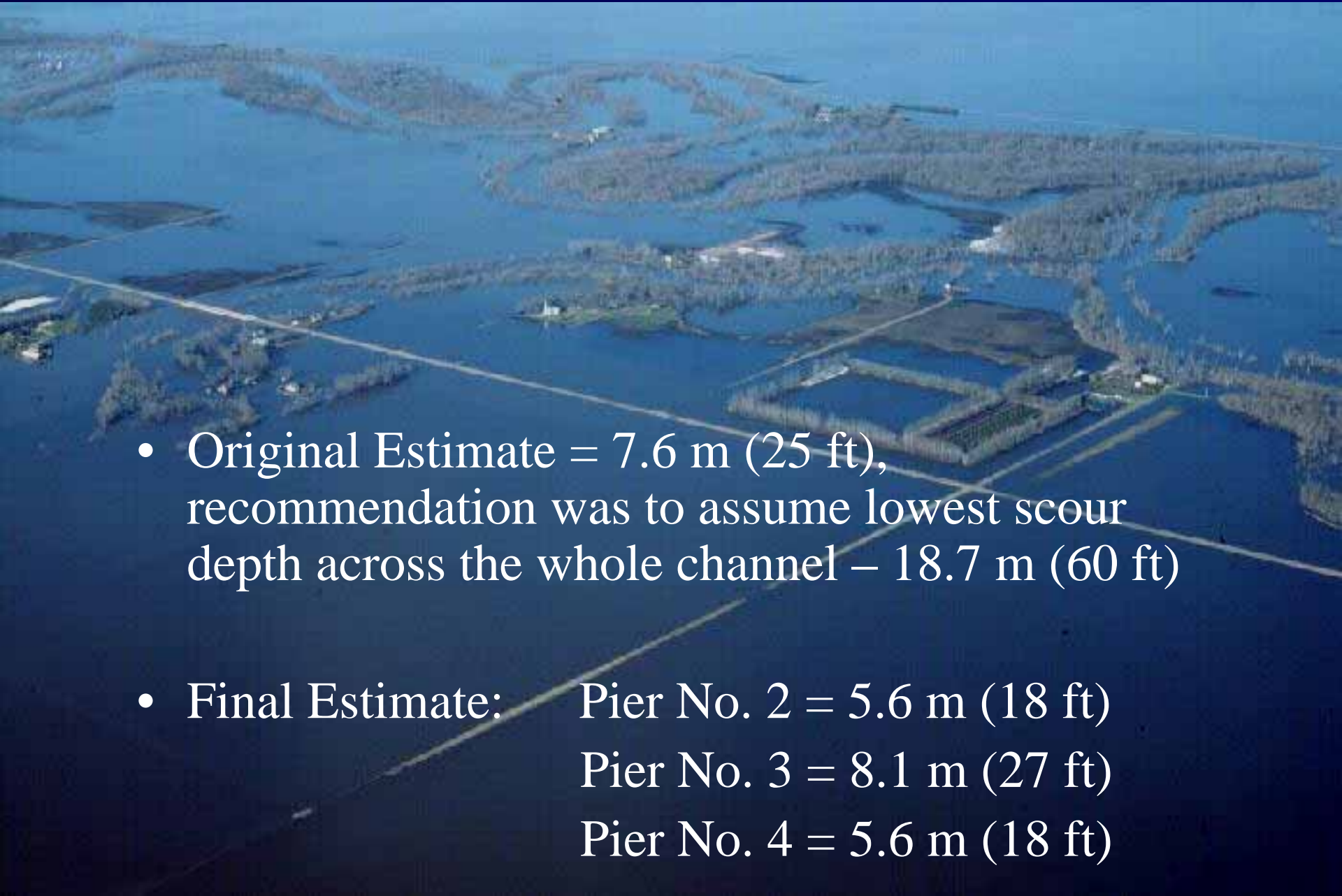


# Design Loads for Drilled Shafts

- Axial Load: 10,695 kN (1200 ton)
- Lateral Loads:
  - Pier No. 2 = 1711 kN (192 ton)
  - Pier No. 3 = 1744 kN (196 ton)
  - Pier No. 4 = 1802 kN (203 ton)



# Scour



- Original Estimate = 7.6 m (25 ft), recommendation was to assume lowest scour depth across the whole channel – 18.7 m (60 ft)
- Final Estimate:
  - Pier No. 2 = 5.6 m (18 ft)
  - Pier No. 3 = 8.1 m (27 ft)
  - Pier No. 4 = 5.6 m (18 ft)



# Subsurface Investigation

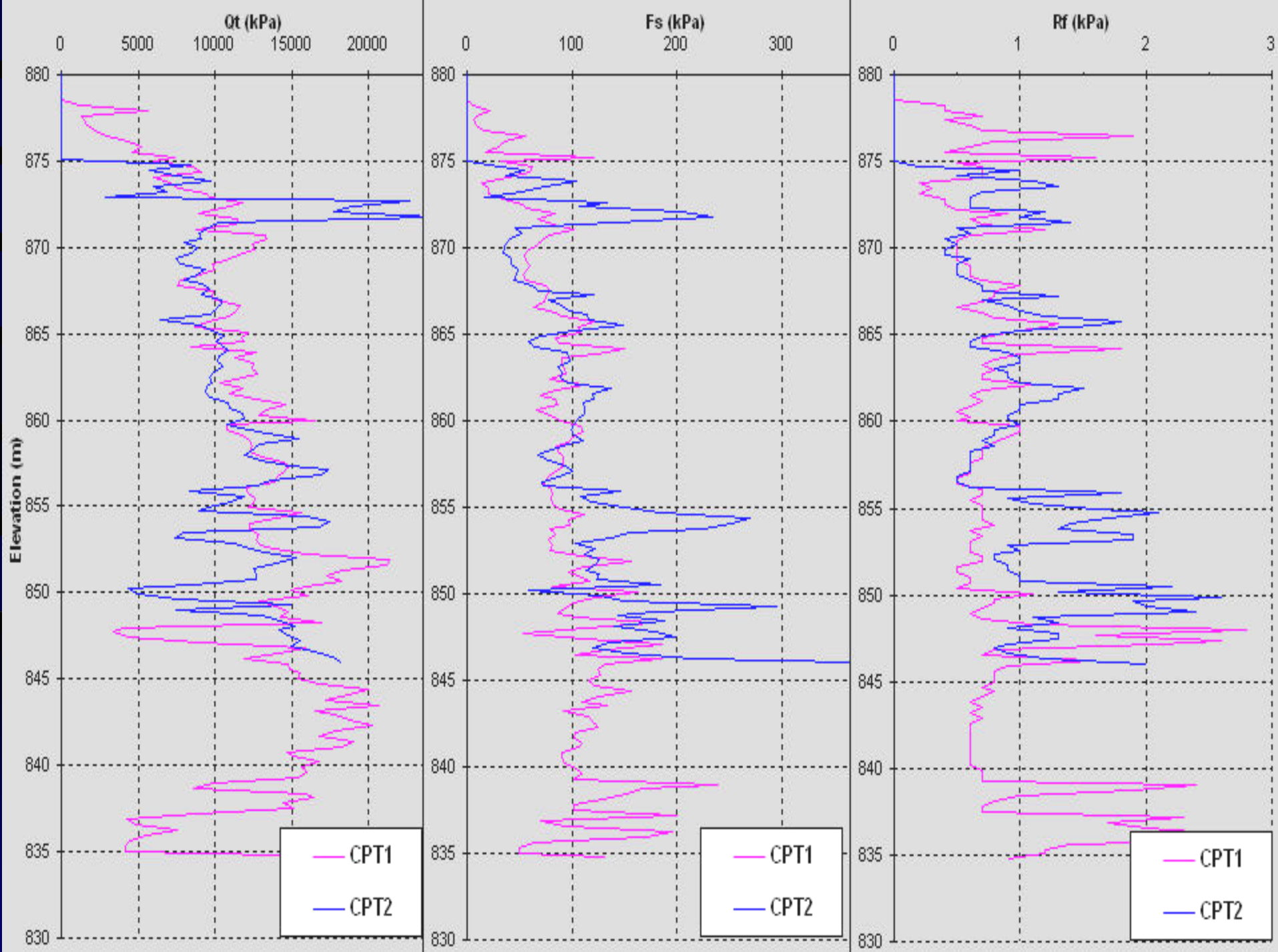


# Area Geology

- Alluvium consisting mostly of valley fill (Holocene deposits)
  - Clay, silt, sand, gravel and cobbles, occasional boulders
- Depth to bedrock is about 730 m (2400 ft) (Smith, 2004)

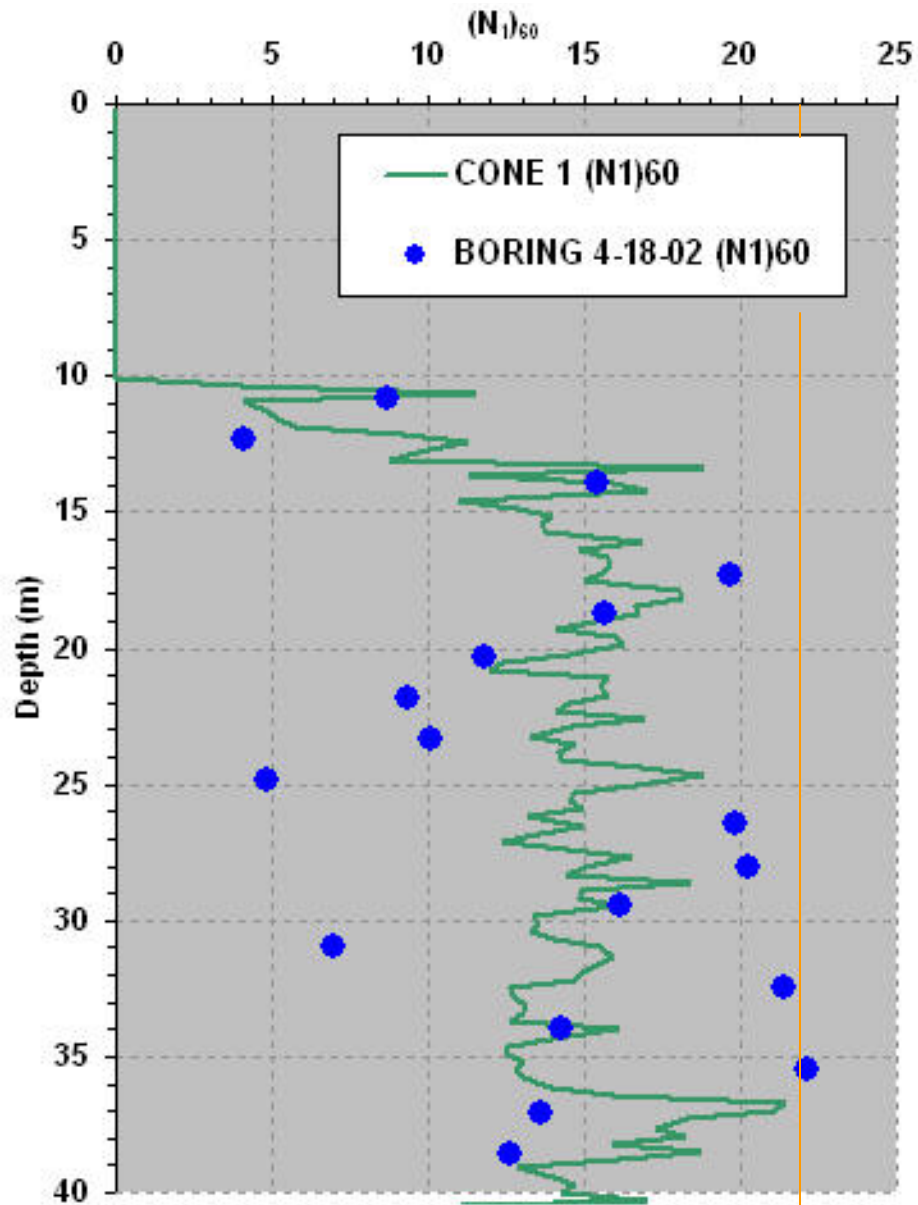




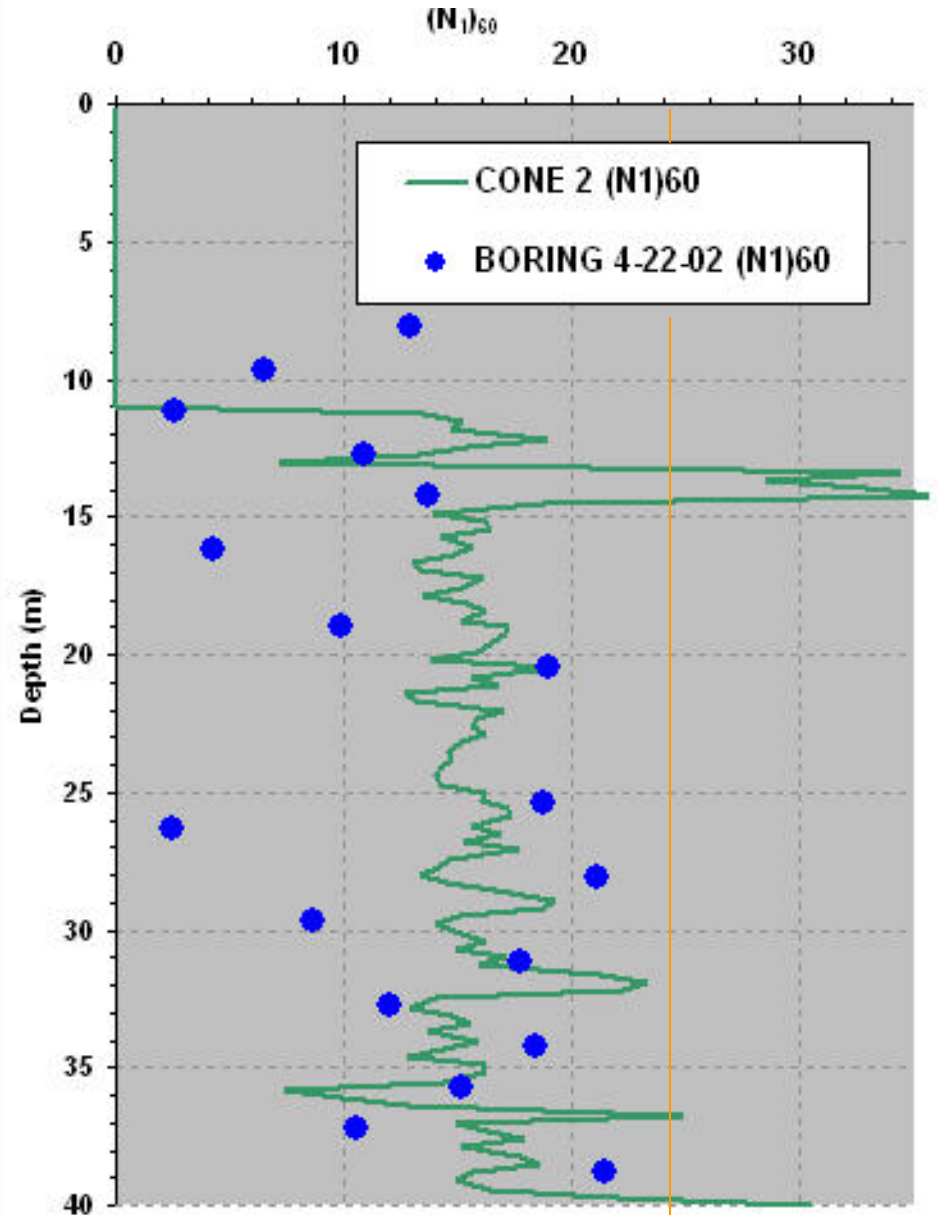


# Comparison between CPT and SPT – $(N_1)_{60}$

Bent No. 1



Bent No. 2



# Summary of Site Investigation

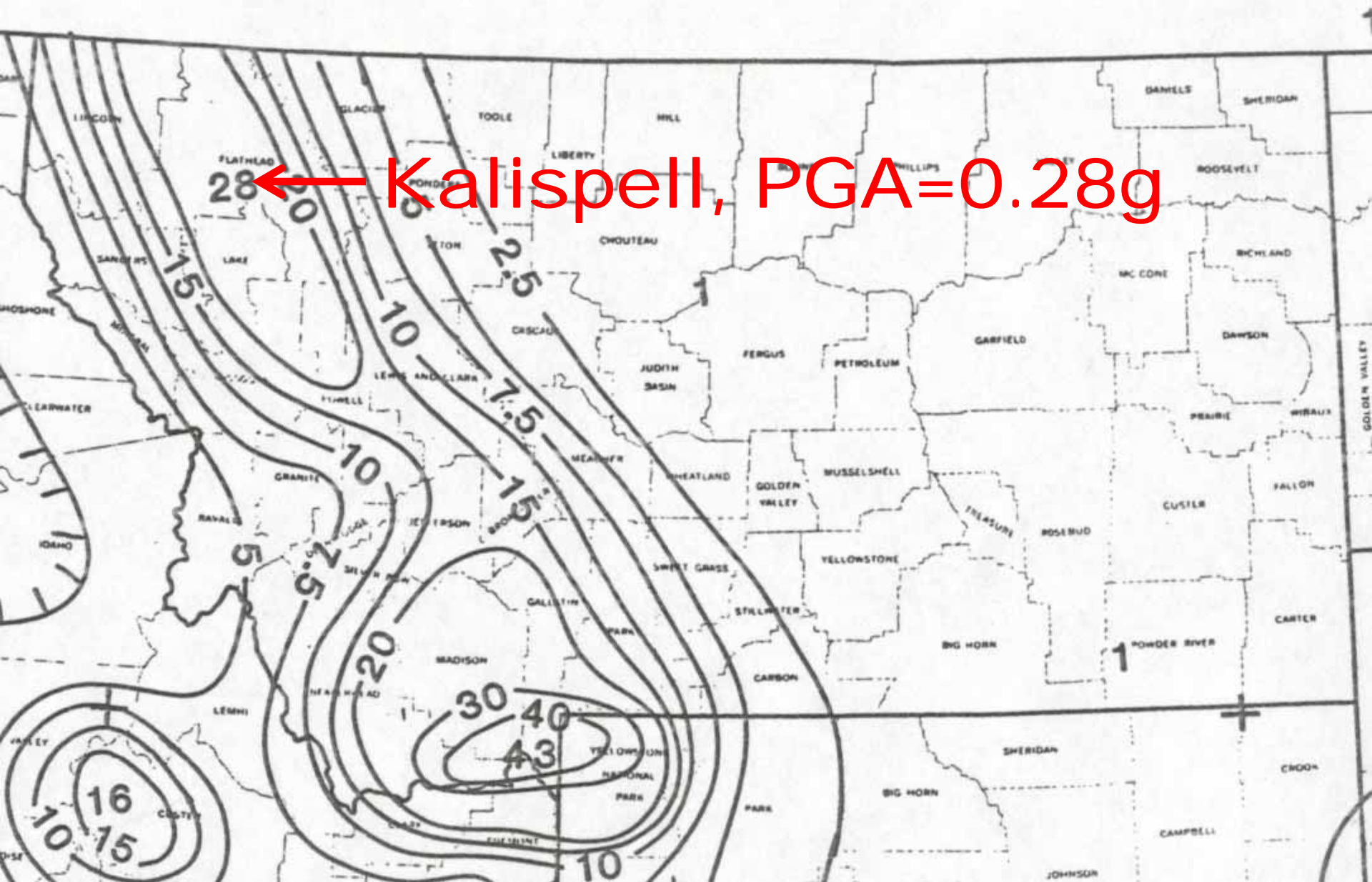
- Typical alluvial environment – variable stratigraphy
- Deep cohesionless deposits with no dense bearing stratum encountered
- Decent correlation between SPT and CPT<sub>u</sub>
- Fines are nonplastic



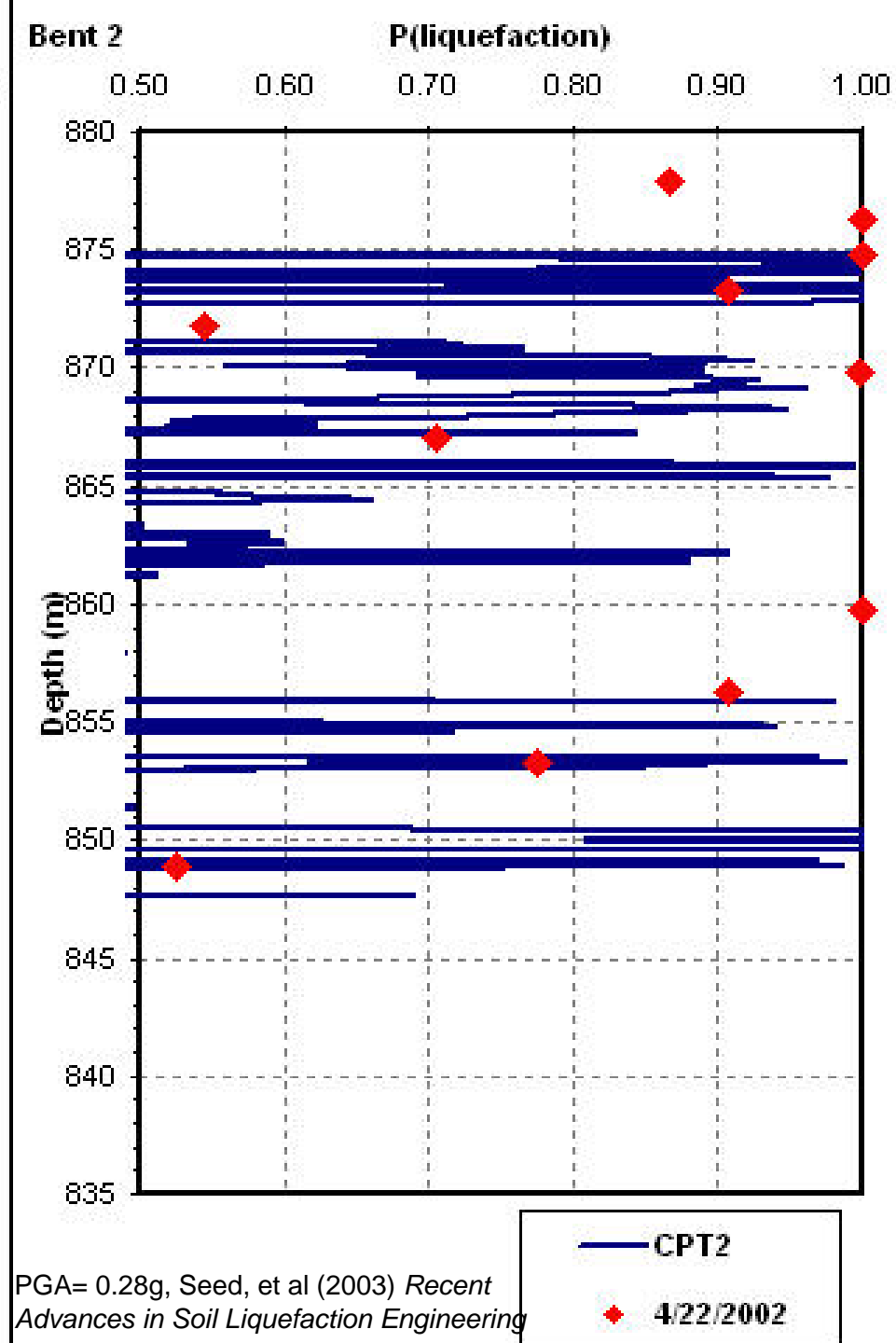
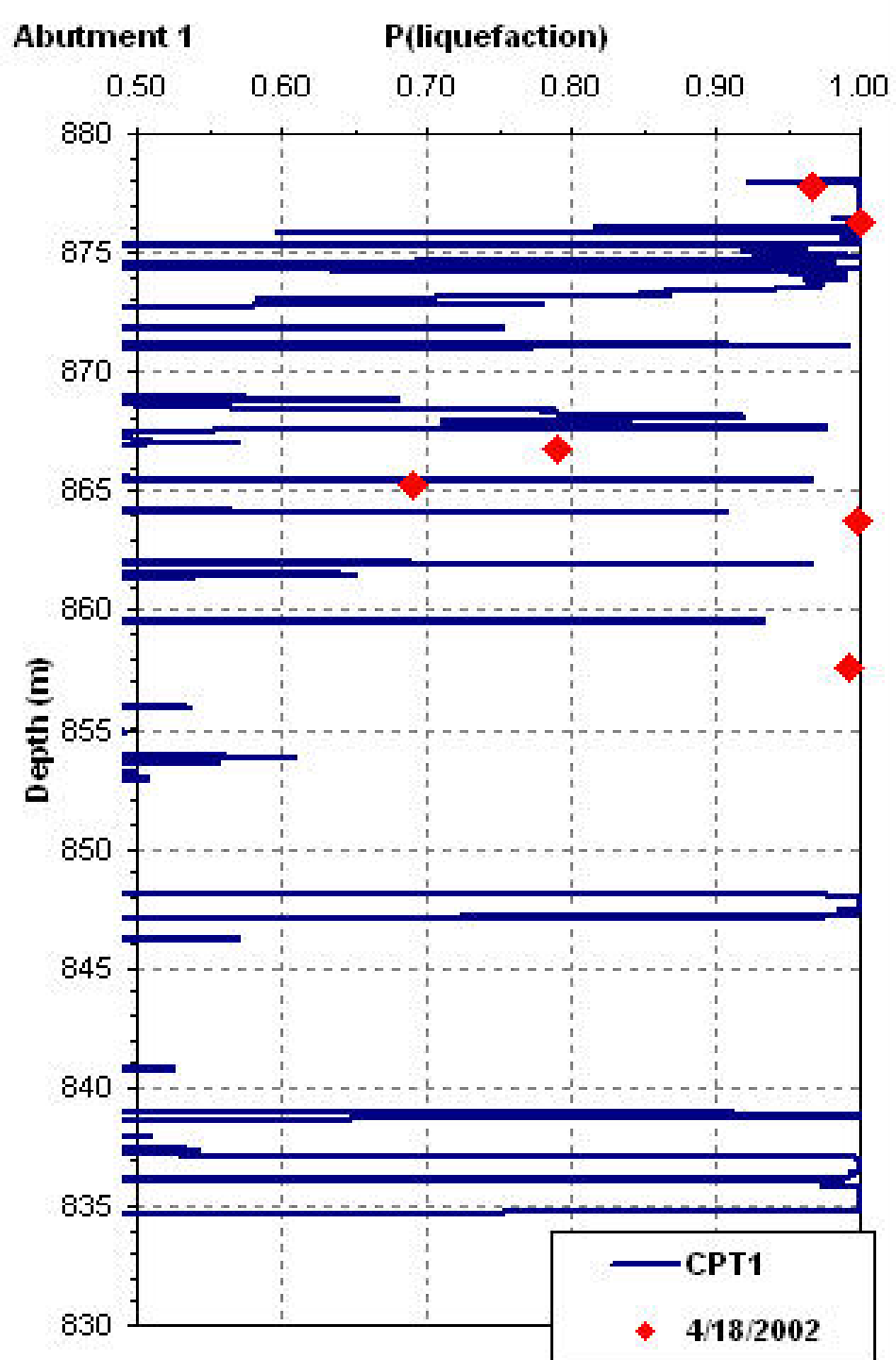
# What Else...?



# AASHTO Map of Horizontal Acceleration







# Design Considerations


- Bridge alignment and layout
- Lack of dense/hard bearing stratum
- Potential for liquefaction
  - Loss of pile capacity
  - Drag loads
  - Slope stability
- Piers (especially Pier No. 4)
  - Deep water
  - Significant scour
  - Large axial and lateral loads



## Design Considerations, cont'd

- End bents – driven piles
- Constructability of Pier No. 4
  - Deep water with fast current
  - Will installation and removal of temporary casing be feasible? What will capacity be with full length permanent casing?
  - Contractor qualifications
- Cost \$,\$\$\$,\$\$\$

# Design Recommendations

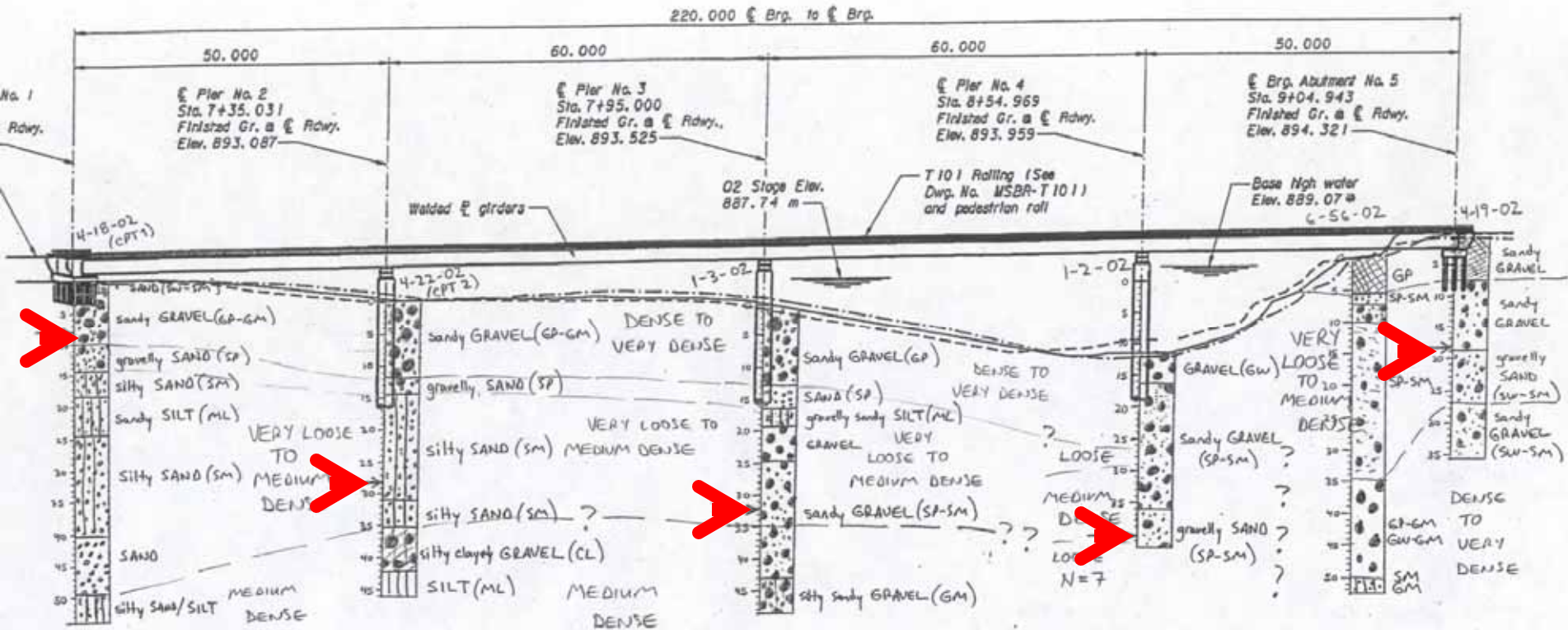
- 
- ~~Change alignment and/or bridge layout~~
  - ~~Mitigate scour~~
  - Perform ground improvement around each of the foundation elements
  - 508 mm (20”) pipe piles at abutments
  - Build some really big drilled shafts
  - Use contractor having experience installing large diameter drilled shafts below a water surface
  - \$ Increase cost estimate \$

# Design Recommendations

	<b>Pier No. 2</b>	<b>Pier No. 3</b>	<b>Pier No. 4</b>
Diameter, m (ft)	3.05 (10)	3.05 (10)	3.51 (11.5)
Total Length, m (ft)	30.7 (100)	35.5 (116)	43.0 (141)
Length Below Scour El., m (ft)	22.4 (73)	22.5 (75)	22.5 (75)



# Design Recommendations





# The Bids (Awarded in 2007)

**BID TAB COSTS - SLETTEN CONSRUCTION**

	CONCRETE CLASS DD			DRILLED SHAFT CONCRETE			REINFORCING STEEL			SEISMIC STEEL			3.585 m CASING			3.510 m DRILLED SHAFT			
PIER NO.	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	TOTAL/ PIER
2	71.8	\$450	\$32,310	319.5	\$400	\$127,800	5321	\$3	\$15,963	17150	\$3	\$51,450	7.2	\$7,500	\$54,000	31.1	\$13,000	\$404,300	\$685,823
3	67.1	\$450	\$30,195	346.1	\$400	\$138,440	5281	\$3	\$15,843	18534	\$3	\$55,602	12	\$7,500	\$90,000	31.4	\$13,000	\$408,200	\$738,280
4	67.1	\$450	\$30,195	414	\$400	\$165,600	5281	\$3	\$15,843	21903	\$3	\$65,709	19.5	\$7,500	\$146,250	28.1	\$13,000	\$365,300	\$788,897
																<b>TOTAL COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS</b>			<b>\$2,213,000</b>
																<b>AVG COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS/m</b>			<b>\$24.426</b>

BID TAB COSTS - ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE

PIER NO.	CONCRETE CLASS DD			DRILLED SHAFT CONCRETE			REINFORCING STEEL			SEISMIC STEEL			3.585 m CASING			3.510 m DRILLED SHAFT			TOTAL/ PIER
	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	
2	71.8	\$700	\$50,260	319.5	\$650	\$207,675	5321	\$3.25	\$17,293	17150	\$3	\$51,450	7.2	\$4,500	\$32,400	31.1	\$6,000	\$186,600	\$545,678
3	67.1	\$700	\$46,970	346.1	\$650	\$224,965	5281	\$3.25	\$17,163	18534	\$3	\$55,602	12	\$4,500	\$54,000	31.4	\$6,000	\$188,400	\$587,100
4	67.1	\$700	\$46,970	414	\$650	\$269,100	5281	\$3.25	\$17,163	21903	\$3	\$65,709	19.5	\$4,500	\$87,750	28.1	\$6,000	\$168,600	\$655,292
														TOTAL COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS					\$1,788,071
														AVG COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS/m					\$19,736

BID TAB COSTS - COP CONSTRUCTION

PIER NO.	CONCRETE CLASS DD			DRILLED SHAFT CONCRETE			REINFORCING STEEL			SEISMIC STEEL			3.585 m CASING			3.510 m DRILLED SHAFT			TOTAL/ PIER
	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	
2	71.8	\$900	\$64,620	319.5	\$420	\$134,190	5321	\$2	\$10,642	17150	\$1.9	\$32,585	7.2	\$5,800	\$41,760	31.1	\$7,900	\$245,690	\$529,487
3	67.1	\$900	\$60,390	346.1	\$420	\$145,362	5281	\$2	\$10,562	18534	\$1.9	\$35,215	12	\$5,800	\$69,600	31.4	\$7,900	\$248,060	\$569,189
4	67.1	\$900	\$60,390	414	\$420	\$173,880	5281	\$2	\$10,562	21903	\$1.9	\$41,616	19.5	\$5,800	\$113,100	28.1	\$7,900	\$221,990	\$621,538
														TOTAL COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS					\$1,720,213
														AVG COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS/m					\$18,987

BID TAB COSTS - MORGEN & OSWOOD - BID WITHDRAWN DUE TO ERROR

PIER NO.	CONCRETE CLASS DD			DRILLED SHAFT CONCRETE			REINFORCING STEEL			SEISMIC STEEL			3.585 m CASING			3.510 m DRILLED SHAFT			TOTAL/ PIER
	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	
2	71.8	\$732	\$52,558	319.5	\$195	\$62,303	5321	\$4.4	\$23,412	17150	\$2.25	\$38,588	7.2	\$5,500	\$39,600	31.1	\$8,200	\$255,020	\$471,480
3	67.1	\$732	\$49,117	346.1	\$195	\$67,490	5281	\$4.4	\$23,236	18534	\$2.25	\$41,702	12	\$5,500	\$66,000	31.4	\$8,200	\$257,480	\$505,025
4	67.1	\$732	\$49,117	414	\$195	\$80,730	5281	\$4.4	\$23,236	21903	\$2.25	\$49,282	19.5	\$5,500	\$107,250	28.1	\$8,200	\$230,420	\$540,035
														TOTAL COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS					\$1,516,540
														AVG COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS/m					\$16,739

# Bid Results

CASING		3.510 m DRILLED SHAFT			
UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	TOTAL/ PIER
00	\$54,000	31.1	\$13,000	\$404,300	\$685,823
00	\$90,000	31.4	\$13,000	\$408,200	\$738,280
00	\$146,250	28.1	\$13,000	\$365,300	\$788,897
<b>TOTAL COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS</b>					<b>\$2,213,000</b>
<b>AVG COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS/m</b>					<b>\$24,426</b>

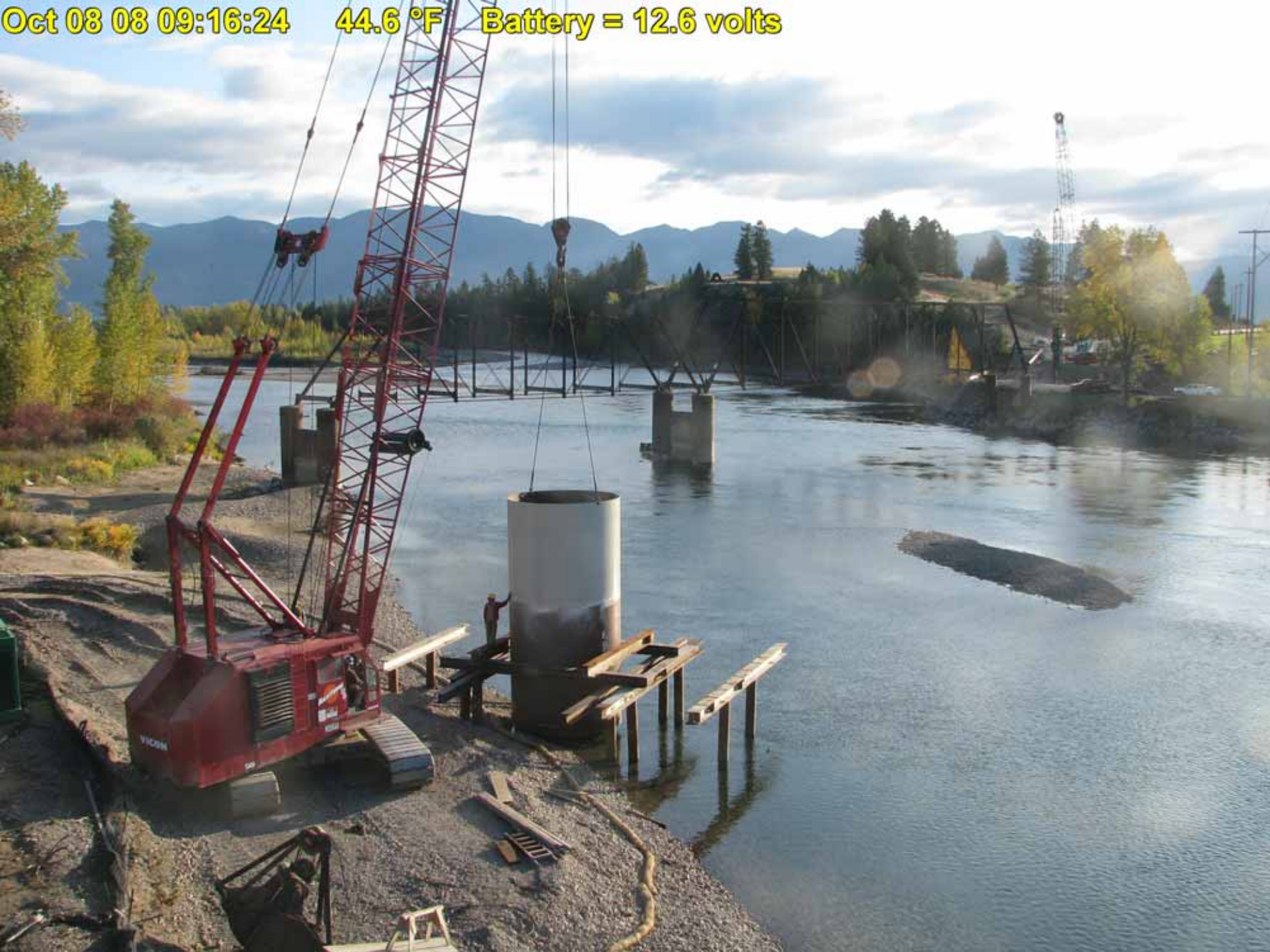
CASING		3.510 m DRILLED SHAFT			
UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	TOTAL/ PIER
00	\$32,400	31.1	\$6,000	\$186,600	\$545,678
00	\$54,000	31.4	\$6,000	\$188,400	\$587,100
00	\$87,750	28.1	\$6,000	\$168,600	\$655,292
<b>TOTAL COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS</b>					<b>\$1,788,071</b>
<b>AVG COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS/m</b>					<b>\$19,736</b>

CASING		3.510 m DRILLED SHAFT			
UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	TOTAL/ PIER
00	\$41,760	31.1	\$7,900	\$245,690	\$529,487
00	\$69,600	31.4	\$7,900	\$248,060	\$569,189
00	\$113,100	28.1	\$7,900	\$221,990	\$621,538
<b>TOTAL COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS</b>					<b>\$1,720,213</b>
<b>AVG COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS/m</b>					<b>\$18,987</b>

CASING		3.510 m DRILLED SHAFT			
UNIT PRICE	COST	QTY	UNIT PRICE	COST	TOTAL/ PIER
00	\$39,600	31.1	\$8,200	\$255,020	\$471,480
00	\$66,000	31.4	\$8,200	\$257,480	\$505,025
00	\$107,250	28.1	\$8,200	\$230,420	\$540,035
<b>TOTAL COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS</b>					<b>\$1,516,540</b>
<b>AVG COST OF DRILLED SHAFTS/m</b>					<b>\$16,739</b>

# Construction

Oct 08 08 09:16:24 44.6 °F Battery = 12.6 volts





Oct 08 08 10:34:25 50.0 °F Battery = 13.8 volts





Oct 16 08 09:27:29 32.0 °F Battery = 12.3 volts





Oct 09 08 10:05:14 33.8 °F Battery = 13.0 volts





Oct 27 08:09:53:22 35.6 °F Battery = 12.7 volts



Oct 09 08 11:40:47 42.8 °F Battery = 13.8 volts





Nov 05 08 15:57:46 35.6 °F Battery = 12.0 volts





Nov 06 08 08:49:17 30.2 °F Battery = 12.2 volts



Jan 29 09 10:58:07 24.8 °F Battery = 12.6 volts





Jan 30 09 13:01:03 55.4 °F Battery = 14.0 volts



Feb 06 09 10:02:44 30.2 °F Battery = 13.0 volts





Questions?